

# Special Issue in Honor of the 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Professor Imre J. Rudas

## Foreword

This special issue of *Acta Polytechnica Hungarica* is dedicated to Professor Imre J. Rudas on the occasion of his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday and in recognition of his outstanding contributions to computational intelligence, robotics with special emphasis on robot control, soft computing, computer-aided process planning, fuzzy control and fuzzy sets. The issue can be considered as a complement to the edited volume *J. Fodor and J. Kacprzyk (Eds.), Aspects of Soft Computing, Intelligent Robotics and Control (Studies in Computational Intelligence, vol. 241) (Springer-Verlag, Berlin, Heidelberg, 2009)*. The manuscripts were submitted in response to direct invitations from the Editor-in-Chief, containing contributions from some of Imre's past collaborators. The Editor-in-Chief is grateful to the authors for their excellent work.

It is impossible to summarize in a short foreword the accomplishments of the honoree. At the age of 60 he is an author of books, book chapters, journal papers, conference proceedings papers, all together over 460 scientific publications in the mentioned fields.

Professor Imre J. Rudas graduated from Bánki Donát Polytechnic, Budapest in 1971, received the Master Degree in Mathematics from the Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, the Ph.D. in Robotics from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 1987, while the Doctor of Science degree from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 2004. He received his first Doctor Honoris Causa degree from the Technical University of Košice, Slovakia and the second one from "Politehnica" University of Timisoara, Romania.

He served as the Rector of Budapest Tech from August 1, 2003 for a period of four years, and was reelected for five years in 2007. He is active as a full university professor and Head of Department of Intelligent Engineering Systems. During his leadership period Budapest Tech has succeeded in fulfilling the requirements for university status, and ready to work as Óbuda University from January 1, 2010.

Imre is a Fellow of IEEE, Senior Administrative Committee member of IEEE Industrial Electronics Society, member of Board of Governors of IEEE SMC Society and Chair of IEEE Hungary Section. He is the Vice-President of IFSA (International Fuzzy System Association), he was the President of Hungarian

Fuzzy Association for ten years, Steering Committee Member of the Hungarian Robotics Association and the John von Neumann Computer Society.

He serves as an associate editor of diverse scientific journals, member of various national and international scientific committees. He is the founder of the IEEE International Conference Series on Intelligent Engineering Systems (INES) and IEEE International Conference on Computational Cybernetics (ICCC), and some regional symposia. He has served as General Chairman and Program Chairman of numerous scientific international conferences.

His present areas of research activity are Computational Cybernetics, Robotics with special emphasis on Robot Control, Soft Computing, Computer-aided Process Planning, Fuzzy Control and Fuzzy Sets. He has published books, more than 400 papers in books, various scientific journals and international conference proceedings.

Imre J. Rudas' personal qualities of commitment, integrity, leadership and initiative leave lasting impression on his colleagues, students and friends. This issue, which is an expression of their appreciation and friendship, is the 21<sup>st</sup> one from 2004 may be a surprise and bring a lot of success and satisfaction to him, who launched the life of the journal five years ago.

We wish Imre the best of health, energy and happiness in the years ahead, and we count on his activities and contributions to scientific projects for many years to come.

*János Fodor*

Editor-in-Chief